

CHAPTER 696

H.B. No. 2689

AN ACT

relating to the practice of law.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 5, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Chapter 953 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 953. PETROLEUM AND MINERAL LAND SERVICES

*Sec. 953.001. EXCEPTION TO PRACTICE OF LAW. For the purposes of the definition in Section 81.101, Government Code, the "practice of law" does not include acts relating to the lease, purchase, sale, or transfer of a mineral or mining interest in real property or an easement or other interest associated with a mineral or mining interest in real property if:*

*(1) the acts are performed by a person who does not hold the person out as an attorney licensed to practice law in this state or in another jurisdiction; and*

*(2) the person is not a licensed attorney.*

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

Passed by the House on April 25, 2003: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 22, 2003: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 20, 2003.

Effective June 20, 2003.

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CHAPTER 697

H.B. No. 2692

AN ACT

relating to a pilot program to promote and facilitate the operation of diabetes groups.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Chapter 103, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 103.0176 to read as follows:

*Sec. 103.0176. PILOT PROGRAM FOR DIABETES GROUPS. (a) The council, in consultation with the department, shall develop a pilot program to promote and facilitate the operation of diabetes groups to enable persons with diabetes to exchange information and strategies to manage the disease and to obtain relevant information and education.*

*(b) The council may not provide direct financial support to fund a diabetes group, but may provide meeting space in a state-owned building, if available. The department shall cooperate with the council to provide meeting space under this subsection.*

*(c) The council shall operate the pilot program required by this section in not more than two counties in this state selected by the council from among the counties that are located on the border of this state and the United Mexican States and that have a high proportion of low-income households.*

*(d) Not later than December 1, 2004, the council shall submit a report summarizing the results of the pilot program to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives.*